

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03

RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SCI-06 DRC-01 /046 W

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R 262231Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO USIA WASHDC

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5878

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USIAC

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: CHANNEL 7

FOR ILA, IMV, IPS: 1. - IO AND AIO PAID COURTESY CALL ON RECENTLY APPOINTED EXEC. MANAGER OF STATE OWNED CHANNEL TV 7, JAOR (R) JAIME FUENZALIDA VALENZUELA. FUENZALIDA HAD MADE LATE REQUEST YESTERDAY "BASED ON JUNTA DESIRE" FOR OUR ASSISTANCE ENABLE CHANNEL 7 CARRY SPLASH-DOWN OF SKY-LAB 2 ASTRONAUTS. OUR LAST MINUTE EFFORTS UNSUCCESSFUL DUE LATE HOUR AND DIFFICULTY COMMUNICATING WITH AGENCY. NEW DIRECTOR OF CHANNEL 7, WHICH NORMALLY OPERATED NATIONAL TV NETWORK, IS COL EDUARDO SEPULVEDA MEDEL, FORMER PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTOR CHILEAN AIR FORCE WHOM "ULTIMAS NOTICIAS" SAYS HAS MASTER'S IN PUBLIC RELATIONS FROM UNIV. OF MINNESOTA.

2. FUENZALIDA SAID JUNTA CHIEF GEN. PINOCHET HAD NAMED HIM TO POST AND FIRST JOB WAS TO "CLEAN UP" CHANNEL. OF 210 EMPLOYEES HE HAD ALREADY DISMISSED 117 (IN THREE DAYS) AND MORE TO GO. ALSO WIFE OF FORMER EMPLOYEE WHO STOLE VALUABLE PIECE EQUIPMENT BEING "DETAINED" IN CHANNEL 7 BACK ROOM. SAID PLACE WAS FILLED WITH SUBVERSIVE PROPAGANDA. PHYSICAL PLANT PROTECTED BY MANY ARMED TROOPS AND FUENZALIDA HAD TWO ARMY CAPTAINS WORKING FOR HIM IN "WEEDING OUT" PROCESS. EXPRESSED CONCERN OF PUBLIC IMAGE ABROAD BUT REALIZED PUBLICITY GIVEN TO BOOK BURNING ON SUNDAY

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NOT HELPFUL. STATED "WE NOT NAZIS BUT NATIONALISTS AND WANT OUT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE".

3. FUENZALIDA PRAISED EFFORTS DURING ALLENDE ADMINISTRATION OF CHANNEL 13 IN GENERAL AND DIRECTOR FATHER HASBUN IN PARTICULAR. IMPLIED HOWEVER THAT PRESENT ARRANGEMENT WHEREBY CHANNEL 13 ALTERNATING NATION-WIDE COVERAGE WOULD NOT LAST INDEFINITELY.

4. FUENZALIDA REVEALED HE HAD WORKED WITH CATHOLIC UNIV. IN SETTING UP ITS CHANNEL 5 TALCAHUANO OPERATION AND UNIV. CHILE SANTIAGO CHANNEL 6. ALSO WORKED ON SPECIAL ARMED FORCES MONITORING PROGRAM OF MARXIST RADIO AND TV PRIOR SEPT 11 MILITARY ACTION. HOPES TO NAME NEW PRESS CHIEF IN NEXT FEW DAYS FROM LIST OF CANDIDATES SUPPLIED BY MILITARY COLLEAGUES.

5. WE ASSURED FUENZALIDA OF OUR DESIRE COOPERATE AND WILL PROVIDE FILM CLIPS PLUS OFFER OTHER MATERIALS INCLUDING WIRELESS FILE ITEMS. POST EXPECTS POSSIBLE GREATER PLACEMENT OPPORTUNITIES WITH FOUR CHANNEL S (13, 7, 9/6 IN SANTIAGO AND 4 IN VALPARAISO) NOW DOING PROGRAMMING. REQUEST AGENCY PROVIDE GUIDANCE FOR FUTURE SATELLITE COVERAGE REQUESTS.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 SEP 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973SANTIA04626
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: SANTIAGO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t1973099/aaaaagcr.tel
Line Count: 81
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17-Jan-2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <12 FEB 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CHANNEL 7 FOR ILA, IMV, IPS: 1. - IO AND AIO PAID COURTESY CALL ON RECENTLY
TAGS: ETEL, TSPA, CI
To: USIA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005